

CONGRESS KNOWS WHAT HE MEANT

President Puts the Secret Service Matter Up to That Body.

CONGRESSMAN TAWNEY JOINS FAMOUS CLUB

Roosevelt Quotes Chicago Newspaper Article, Written by Speaker Cannon's Secretary, and Congressional Record for Proof of What He Did Say.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 4.—Unusual attention was paid in the House of Representatives to-day to the reading of a message from the President replying to a resolution of that body for an explanation of the intimation in his annual message that members of Congress were afraid to be investigated by the secret service. The gallop of the speaker's train of thought to the President's specific references to certain speeches by Messrs. Tammey, Minnesota; Smith, Iowa; Shelley, Kentucky; and Fitzgerald, New York, when the speaker, Mr. Clegg, had been in the operations of the secret service was up for discussion; and also to Mr. Busbey, the Speaker's private secretary, created a storm of laughter, the speaker at times vigorously clapping for order.

In commenting on the President's reference to him in the message Mr. Busbey said:

"I am an employe of the House of Representatives; it would not be appropriate for me in any way to make any comment on the matter now be-

fore the House. I will say, however, that the article quoted from the Chicago "Inter-Com" in the President's message was prepared in the regular course of work as a newspaper correspondent when I was the representative of the Chicago press. I doubt if a dozen members of Congress have read the article or heard of it until today."

Message Causes Merriment.

As the reading of the message proceeded, the members of the House and others laughed outright, while some were prone to joke with their neighbors.

When the reading had been concluded Mr. Perkins (New York), chairman of the special committee which originally considered the matter, moved that the message be referred to that committee.

"It is a amendment in order to that motion," inquired Mr. Griggs (Georgia), in a deliberate voice.

"It is," replied the Speaker.

"Then," said Mr. Griggs, "I move that this message be returned to the President."

"Oh, no; oh, no," shouted several of Mr. Griggs's Democratic colleagues.

Mr. Perkins insisted that the message should go to the special committee and in the meantime Mr. Griggs withdrew his motion, saying he took that action at the request of his party leaders.

The message was referred.

The Message.

With the exception of the preamble which contained the resolution adopted

by the House, calling upon the President for proof of his statements, contained in his message at the opening of Congress, following is the President's message:

I am wholly at a loss to understand the concluding portion of the resolution. I have made no charges of corruption against Congress, nor against any member of the present House. I had proof of such corruption affecting any member of the House in any matter as to which the Federal gov-

ernment has jurisdiction, action would at once be brought—as was done in the case of the Schellbach and Burke and Representative William Herrmann and Driggs at different times since I have been President. This would simply be doing my duty in the execution and enforcement of the laws without respect to persons. But I have no jurisdiction over the province or the duties of the President to report to the House "alleged delinquencies" of members or the supposed "corrupt action" of a member "in his official capacity." The member who is the House is by the Constitution in plain language, "under the

In the third and fourth clauses of the preamble it is stated that the meaning of my words is that the "majority of Congress" are aware of the fact of being investigated by secret servicemen and that "Congress as a whole" was equated by that measure in enactment with the "people" who use the word that this is an impeachment of the honor and integrity of the Congress. I am sure that I have stated in accordance with the facts the position of my message referred to runs as follows:

That an amendment was incorporated in the measure providing for the secret service, which provided that

there should be no detail from the government's side. It is not too much to say that this amendment has been of benefit only to the criminals. It has not only introduced for the purpose of diminishing the number of criminals, but it could not have been better devised to this end. It forbade the practice that had been followed by the government of sending the executive heads of various departments for twenty years. To these practices, which have enabled the government to enable us to drive great lotteries out of business and secure a quarter of a million dollars for the government, these practices have enabled us to discover some of the most outrageous crimes of the government. It has enabled the government to land government timber by great corporations and by individuals. It has enabled the government to get some of the evidence indispensable in order to secure the conviction of criminals, and it has enabled the government to deal with criminals with whom the government has to deal both of those

operating in violation of the law and others. The amendment in question was of benefit to no one excepting these criminals, and it seriously hampers the government in the detection of crime and the securing of justice. Moreover, it not only affects departments outside of the Treasury, but it tends to hamper the Secretary of the Treasury himself in the effort

(Continued on Fourth Page.)